

Revenge, Demons, Justice!

Something weird happens in the human brain when we believe that we have a right to revenge. The concept of righteous justice is found all through the bible and all through history. It seems to be that we only need to establish clearly in our own mind that the OTHER PERSON is the bad guy and we can then grant ourselves permission to commit the most despicable and horrific acts of revenge.

Our thinking becomes polarised. If the OTHER PERSON is the bad guy then that, seemingly, makes us THE GOOD GUY; And if we are the good guy we are free to bomb the other guy, THE BAD GUY, into the stone age. We grant ourselves the freedom to piss in his pool, shit on his lawn, lock him up and throw away the key without trial, steal his stuff, kick his dog, knock him down, step on his face, slander his name all over the place and step on his blue suede shoes.

The good guy is apparently allowed to do all the evil things because THE OTHER PERSON is the bad one.

It's almost as if we have a horde of demons living inside of us, just waiting for an excuse to do all of the bad things to the bad person in the name of goodness. Once we let those demons out of the box we can't easily get rid of them again.

When George W. Bush was President of the United States he assured the world that the detainees at Guantanamo Bay did not need a trial. We apparently had to just take his word for it that they were "bad people".

Ever heard of the Catholic Inquisition? Ducking Stools? Stalinist purges? The Nazi extermination of the Roma? The FBI's persecution of socialists and communists? The British Empire's persecution of Irish Nationalists?

As soon as you have identified somebody as a "bad person" who has allegedly done a "bad thing" God apparently gives you permission to behave like a devil.

Sport has a lot to answer for. Sport encourages people to think in terms of polarised opposite teams where one must win and one must lose. A model of war. Football fans are easily whipped up into a fanatical zeal against the other team.

We are always the good guys and we always have God or some equivalent Super-Ego character on our side.

The C.I.A. and the rest of the "Five Eyes" intelligence network would wish us all to believe that there is something called "The Greater Good" and that we can somehow stop being good people and start doing bad things in the name of this so-called "Greater Good". The James Bond franchise attempts to lead the gullible into believing that "licensed to kill" is a good thing (on our side) but a bad thing (if it was on anybody else's side). If the other countries of the world have agents who are licensed to kill then they are "bad people" who

can be sanctioned with extreme prejudice by the killers employed on our side. We must, apparently, never lower our double standards nor examine too closely our double thinking. The bogus concept of a “greater good” is one of the many ways the people in power or people dedicated to a fanatical cause will attempt to manipulate us into doing extreme acts of “revenge” or “justice”.

If you’ve studied any Freudian and Jungian forms of psychology you will be familiar with the Ego, the Shadow and the Super-Ego. They sound like comic book characters don’t they? And there are reasons for that.

The people in power are in power because they want power. And we are supposed to be daft enough to give it to them.

We are in the neighbouring lands of psychology, sociology and anthropology where the borderlines get a little blurry. Our human storytelling reinforces the structural polarisation of our attempts at moral understanding. We are taught to put everybody into the categories of good or bad, our team or the other team. In reality there may be three positions, four, five positions or any other number. Social pressures in the news media and “educational” systems teach us to oversimplify everything.

In every conflict we let the demons out of the box and we sacrifice the very lives of our young people to the God of War. Because of Dialectical Materialism or because of Game Theory or because of Economic and Fiscal Studies or because of the Flag or because somebody said so and we just didn’t want to let everybody down.